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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **Hiroshi HASHIMOTO et al.**

Group Art Unit: **2813**

Application Number: **10/756,403**

Examiner: **James M. Mitchell**

Filed: **January 14, 2004**

Confirmation No.: **3499**

For: **METHOD OF PRODUCING SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE**

Attorney Docket Number: **042017**

Customer Number: **38834**

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

January 26, 2006

Sir:

In response to the requirement for an election of species dated December 29, 2005, Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Species I and sub-species A. It is believed that claims 8 and 9 read on the elected species. The Applicants reserve their right to file Divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

The Applicants respectfully request an early examination on the elected claims and favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions with this Response, please feel free to call the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicant(s) respectfully petition(s) for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

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